

rigors of an untamed wilderness. Later, our inexperienced forefathers fought the superior military and economic might of Great Britain to claim their freedom from oppression. In the nineteenth century, America was literally torn apart by Civil War yet a people was freed from slavery. Pioneers of that day endured tragic hardships in settling the West, yet prevailed and helped this country grow to its present dimensions. In this century, Americans have faced World War I and the devastation of the Great Depression, followed almost immediately after by the exhausting conflicts of the second World War. America's foundation was created and strengthened through overcoming all of these trials.

My vision for America calls for renewal of the ideals and faith in this country that made our forefathers victorious and America great. It was their commitment to these beliefs that gave them the determination to sacrifice and surmount tremendous obstacles. We as Americans must uphold and heritage of freedom. We must reaffirm respect for the dignity of the individual and respect for our laws and those who work to carry them out. We must acknowledge a higher power and adhere to the principles of honesty, hard work, cooperation with others and loyalty to our country.

As President John F. Kennedy declared, "No nation can remain free unless its people cherish their freedoms, understand the responsibilities they entail, and nurture the will to preserve them."

Working side by side with fellow American in Albany, I experienced first hand the vision of mankind which has give us strength and hope and courage in ages past as we have faced adversity and challenges. I felt the spirit of brotherhood of putting aside personal differences and working together for the common good. This is the vision which calls out through the Pledge of Allegiance, for us to be—"... one nation, under God, indivisible." My vision for America is the one bequeathed to each of us, the legacy of our forbearers who sacrificed their lives in every age for all our freedoms. I see an America at peace through the renewed commitment of her people, an America that is still the hope of the world. To this vision I pledge, in the words of the Declaration of Independence, 'my life, my fortune, and my sacred honor.'

THE ENERGY RESOURCE CENTER  
OF DOWNEY, CA, LEADING THE  
WAY FOR AN ENERGY-EFFICIENT  
NATION

### HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 1995

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, in this day of growing concern over both the economic and the environmental future of our Nation, I rise to spotlight a "new" building in my district that sets a national standard in energy efficiency, environmental concern, and the use of recycled materials. It is the Southern California Gas Company's Energy Resource Center [ERC] which is located in Downey, CA. Envisioned as a clearinghouse on energy and energy conservation information, the planners of the ERC sought to house this information center in a building that embodied the environmental goals of recycling and energy and resource conservation. They succeeded magnificently.

The ERC opened its doors in April in its "new" recycled building as a one-stop center

where customers can find the most efficient, cost-effective, and environmentally sensitive solutions to all their energy needs. At the ERC, people will be able to get answers to energy questions on such diverse subjects as natural day lighting, gas cooling, and low emissivity windows. The ERC will also house an air quality permitting office of the South Coast Air Quality Management District, that will allow businesses to make energy decisions and understand air quality permitting requirements in one stop. The ERC will provide meeting space for up to 700 people.

Designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] as an "Energy Star Building," the ERC is one of the Nation's best working models of energy efficiency and cutting-edge environmental products—a living example of how to recycle a building and use energy in the most efficient way. When construction began on the 38-year-old building in April of 1994, there were no wrecking balls. Instead, builders reused many of the materials that were already there. They incorporated those materials with many of the most advanced and environmentally sensitive technologies which are available today.

During the construction process, all of the 550 tons of material removed from the building— asphalt, red clay brick, porcelain plumbing fixtures among others—were sorted and stockpiled. Materials that could not be used again in the building were taken to recycling centers or were given to other builders. About 60 percent of the materials removed—approximately 350 tons—were recycled one way or another.

Contractors were required to use recycled, toxic-free, and environmentally-sensitive materials. As a result, 80 percent of the materials used in the construction of the ERC came from recycled or reused materials. The ERC building now features many unusual recycled materials such as concrete reinforcement bars made of recycled steel from weapons confiscated by the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department; flooring made of wood recovered from a condemned turn-of-the-century building in San Francisco; a wall made from recycled aircraft aluminum; and sections of the movie set used in the recent Warner Bros. film "Disclosure."

In addition to the construction materials, other state-of-the art, environmentally-sensitive methods were used such as soil protection, dust minimization, and adherence to noise control regulations. The preservation of existing land resources was not forgotten—whether they were trees, shrubs, vines, and or top soil. Drought-resistant plants were used for exterior landscaping. There are plans for an underground drip irrigation system to be fed by reclaimed water.

The Southern California Gas Company's Energy Resource Center in Downey, CA, is leading the way for sound environmental construction that is economics-friendly. Mr. Speaker, the Energy Resource Center will enable those who use it to have a much better energy-efficiency future and that is good news for our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL SCOTT E.  
MILLS

### HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 1995

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Scott E. Mills, U.S. Air Force, on the occasion of his retirement from the military.

Scott Mills has served as Chief of the U.S. Air Force Academy Activities Group since June, 1993. During the last 2 years, he has worked closely with many of our offices in coordinating Congressional nominations and inquiries for the Academy.

Born in Berkeley, California, Scott Mills received a Bachelor of Science degree as a member of the U.S. Air Force Academy Class of 1973. He received a Master of Science in Logistics from the Air Force Institute of Technology in 1984. His professional military education includes Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and the Air War College.

Scott Mills' Air Force career is one marked diverse accomplishments. He is a Master Navigator with over 3,000 flying hours, serving as both C-141 navigator and C-141 navigator instructor. He has served with 4th Military Airlift Squadron, 323d Flying Training Wing, Headquarters Air Training Command, the Joint Cruise Missiles Project, and the 323d Support Group.

Scott Mills has received numerous awards including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters and the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster.

Mr. Speaker, Scott Mills' service to his country has touched the lives of countless young men and women either serving in the U.S. Air Force or attending the United States Air Force Academy. His integrity and his commitment to excellence are the trademarks of his career.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thinking him for his distinguished and selfless service to our nation. As he returns to civilian life, may he and his family enjoy the full blessings of the freedom he has so ably defended during this career as an officer in the U.S. Air Force.

### CAREERS BILL INTRODUCTION

### HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 1995

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join Training Subcommittee Chairman BUCK McKEON, his Vice Chairman FRANK RIGGS, YOUTH SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DUKE CUNNINGHAM, Congressman STEVE GUNDERSON, Majority Whip TOM DELAY, Conference Chairman JOHN BOEHNER, and Budget Committee Chairman JOHN KASICH, to introduce the CAREERS (the Consolidated and Reformed Education, Employment, and Rehabilitation Act) Act to reform the Federal job training system.

This bill is the result of a number of Subcommittee hearings, and is the first complete product of the Opportunities Committee's